

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 11-13, 15, 17, 23, 29, 34, and 40.

1. (Currently Amended): A method of representing an entity as a document using a data source having an associated property and content information related to the entity, the method comprising:

independent of a specific user request associating the associated property and the data source,

identifying the data source as having the associated property;

retrieving the content information from the identified data source; and

providing the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

2. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the entity is a task.

3. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the entity is a person.

4. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the entity is an object.

5. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the entity is a device.

6. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the data source is a document.

7. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the data source is a device.

8. (Original): The method of claim 7 wherein the device is a phone.

9. (Original): The method of claim 7 wherein the device is a printer.

10. (Original): The method of claim 7 wherein the device is a camera.

11. (Currently Amended): A method of representing an entity as a document using a plurality of data sources, a first one of the data sources having a first associated property and first content information related to the entity, a second one of the data sources having a second associated property and second content information related to the entity, the method comprising:

independent of a specific user request associating the first associated property and the first data source, identifying the first data source as having the first associated property;

identifying the second data source as having the second associated property;

retrieving the first content information from the first data source and the second content information from the second data source; and

combining the retrieved first and second content information to define at least a portion of the document.

12. (Currently Amended): A document management system for representing an entity as a document using a data source having an associated property and content information related to the entity, the system comprising:

a bit provider configured to:

i) identify the data source as having the associated property independent of a specific user request associating the associated property and the data source;

- ii) retrieve the content information from the identified data source ; and
- iii) provide the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

13. (Currently Amended): A system for representing an entity as a document using a plurality of data sources, a first one of the data sources having a first associated property and first content information related to the entity, a second one of the data sources having a second associated property and second content information related to the entity, the system comprising:

a bit provider configured to:

- i) identify the first data source as having the first associated property independent of a specific user request associating the first associated property and the first data source;
- ii) identify the second data source as having the second associated property;
- iii) retrieve the first content information from the first data source and the second content information from the second data source; and
- iv) combine the retrieved first and second content information to define at least a portion of the document.

14. (Original): The document management system of claim 13 further comprising:  
an application interface in communication with the bit provider, the application interface configured to provide the document to an application.

15. (Currently Amended): A system for representing an entity as a document, the system comprising:

a data storage layer including a plurality of data sources, a first one of the data sources having a first associated property and first content information related to the entity, a second one of the data sources having a second associated property and second content information related to the entity;

an application layer including a plurality of applications;

a document management layer interposed between the data storage layer and the application layer, the document management layer including:

a) a bit provider in communication with the data storage layer and configured to:

i) identify the first data source as having the first associated property

independent of a specific user request associating the first associated property and the first data source;

ii) identify the second data source as having the second associated property;

iii) retrieve the first content information from the first data source and the second content information from the second data source;

iv) combine the retrieved first and second content information to define at least a portion of the document; and

b) an application interface layer configured to receive the document from the bit provider and provide the document to an application.

16. (Original): The system of claim 15 wherein the application interface layer includes a plurality of interfaces each associated with a respective one of the plurality of applications and configured to provide the document to a respective associated application.

17. (Currently Amended): A method of representing a physical device as a document, the physical device having an associated property and content information stored in a memory unit situated within the physical device, the method comprising:

identifying the physical device as having the associated property independent of a specific user request associating the associated property and the physical device;

retrieving the content information from the identified physical device; and

providing the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

18. (Original): The method of claim 17 wherein the physical device is a telephone, and the content information includes a phone number.

19. (Original): The method of claim 17 wherein the physical device is a telephone, and the content information includes an address.

20. (Original): The method of claim 17 wherein the physical device is a printer, and the content information includes a list of outstanding print jobs.

21. (Original): The method of claim 17 wherein the physical device is a camera, and the content information includes image data.

22. (Original): The method of claim 17 wherein the physical device is a UNIX machine, and the content information includes status information for the UNIX machine.

23. (Currently Amended): A system for representing a physical device as a document, the physical device having an associated property and content information stored in a memory unit situated within the physical device, the system comprising:

a bit provider configured to:

- i) identify the physical device as having the associated property independent of a specific user request associating the associated property and the physical device;
- ii) retrieve the content information from the identified physical device; and
- iii) provide the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

24. (Original): The system of claim 23 further comprising:

an application interface in communication with the bit provider, the application interface configured to provide the document to an application.

25. (Original): The system of claim 24, the bit provider further configured to:

- iv) receive additional content information from the application via the application interface; and

ii) send the additional content information to the identified physical device via a communications path.

26. (Original): The system of claim 25 wherein the communications path includes a short message service (SMS) gateway.

27. (Original): The system of claim 25 wherein the communications path includes an e-mail gateway.

28. (Original): The system of claim 25 wherein the communications path is established, at least in part, over a local area network (LAN).

29. (Currently Amended): A method of representing a person as a document using a plurality of data sources, a first one of the data sources having a first associated property and first content information related to the person, a second one of the data sources having a second associated property and second content information related to the person, the method comprising:

identifying the first data source as having the first associated property independent of a specific user request associating the first associated property and the first data source;

identifying the second data source as having the second associated property;

retrieving the first content information from the first data source and the second content information from the second data source; and

combining the retrieved first and second content information to define at least a portion of the document.

30. (Original): The method of claim 29 wherein the first data source is an image file and the first content information includes image data.

31. (Original): The method of claim 29 wherein the first content information includes an e-mail address.

32. (Original): The method of claim 29 wherein the first content information includes a telephone number.

33. (Original): The method of claim 29 wherein the first content information includes a list files.

34. (Currently Amended): A system for representing a person as a document using a data source having an associated property and content information related to the person, the system comprising:

a bit provider configured to:

- i) identify the data source as having the associated property independent of a specific user request associating the associated property and the data source;
- ii) retrieve the content information from the identified data source; and
- iii) provide the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

35. (Original): The system of claim 34 further comprising:  
an application interface in communication with the bit provider, the application interface  
configured to provide the document to an application.

36. (Original): The system of claim 35, the bit provider further configured to:  
iv) receive additional information from the application via the application  
interface; and  
ii) send the additional information to the person via a communications path.

37. (Original): The system of claim 36 wherein the communications path includes a short  
message service (SMS) gateway.

38. (Original): The system of claim 36 wherein the communications path includes an e-mail  
gateway.

39. (Original): The system of claim 36 wherein the communications path is established, at  
least in part, over a local area network (LAN).

40. (Currently Amended): A method of representing a computational process as a document, the  
computational process being performed on a computer having a memory unit in which content  
information related to the computational process is maintained, the method comprising:

identifying the memory unit as storing the content information independent of a specific user request associating the memory unit and the content information;  
retrieving the content information from the memory unit of the computer; and  
providing the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

41. (Original): The method of claim 40 wherein the computational process includes operation of a Java Remote Method Invocation (RMI) registry, and the content information includes an object named in the RMI registry.

42. (Original): The method of claim 40 wherein the computational process includes monitoring of a kernel.

43. (Original): A system for representing a travel approval process as a document using a data source having an associated property and content information related to the travel approval process, the system comprising:

a bit provider configured to:

- i) identify the data source as having the associated property;
- ii) retrieve the content information from the identified data source; and
- iii) provide the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

44. (Original): The system of claim 43 further comprising:  
an application interface in communication with the bit provider, the application interface  
configured to provide the document to an application.

45. (Original): The system of claim 44, the bit provider further configured to:  
iv) receive additional information from the application via the application  
interface; and  
ii) store the additional information.

46. (Previously presented): A system for representing a hiring process as a document using  
a data source having an associated property and content information related to the process, the  
system comprising:

a bit provider configured to:  
i) identify the data source as having the associated property;  
ii) retrieve the content information from the identified data source; and  
iii) provide the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

47. (Original): The system of claim 46 further comprising:  
an application interface in communication with the bit provider, the application interface  
configured to provide the document to an application.

48. (Original): The system of claim 47, the bit provider further configured to:

- iv) receive additional information from the application via the application interface; and
- ii) store the additional information.

49. (Original): The system of claim 48 wherein the communications path includes a short message service (SMS) gateway.

50. (Original): The system of claim 48 wherein the communications path includes an e-mail gateway.

51. (Original): The system of claim 48 wherein the communications path is established, at least in part, over a local area network (LAN).

52. (Previously presented) A method of representing an entity as a document using a data source having an associated property and content information related to the entity, the method comprising:

- i) storing the associated property, wherein the associated property is configured to enable the presentation of the document from the content information in the data source;
- ii) independent of a specific user request associating the property and the data source, identifying the data source as having the associated property;

- iii) retrieving the content information from the identified data source in response to identifying the data source as having the associated property; and
- iv) providing the retrieved content information as at least a portion of the document.

53. (Previously presented): The method of claim 52 wherein the entity is a task.
54. (Previously presented): The method of claim 52 wherein the entity is a person.
55. (Previously presented): The method of claim 52 wherein the entity is an object.
56. (Previously presented): The method of claim 52 wherein the entity is a device.
57. (Previously presented): The method of claim 52 wherein the data source is a document.
58. (Previously presented): The method of claim 52 wherein the data source is a device.
59. (Previously presented): The method of claim 58 wherein the device is a phone.
60. (Previously presented): The method of claim 58 wherein the device is a printer.
61. (Previously presented): The method of claim 58 wherein the device is a camera.